## LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Sixty-sixth Legislature

First Regular Session - 2021

\_\_\_\_\_\_

This bill draft contains confidential and privileged information exempt from disclosure under Section 74-109(1), Idaho Code. If you have received this message by mistake, please notify us immediately by replying to this message or telephoning the Legislative Services Office at (208) 334-2475.

1 AN ACT

RELATING TO FEDERALLY MANDATED IMMUNIZATION POLICIES; AMENDING SECTION 39-9002, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A DEFINITION; AMENDING SECTION 39-9003, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A STATEMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY; AND AMENDING SECTION 39-9004, IDAHO CODE, TO PROHIBIT CERTAIN PERSONS FROM TAKING CERTAIN ACTIONS IN VIOLATION OF THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE OF IDAHO AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 39-9002, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 39-9002. DEFINITIONS. (1) "Health care services" shall mean any service, treatment, or provision of product for the <u>prevention of or</u> care of physical or mental disease, illness, injury, defect or condition, or to otherwise maintain or improve physical or mental health, <u>including any immunization</u>, inoculation, or injection, subject to all laws and rules regulating health service providers and products within the state of Idaho.
- (2) "Mode of securing" shall mean to purchase directly or on credit or by trade, or to contract for third-party payment by insurance or other legal means authorized by the state of Idaho, or to apply for or accept employer or government sponsored health care benefits under such conditions as may legally be required as a condition of such benefits, or any combination of the same.
- (3) "Penalty" shall mean any civil or criminal fine, tax, salary or wage withholding, surcharge, fee or any other imposed consequence, established by law or rule of the federal government of the United States of America or its subdivision or agency, that is used to punish or discourage the exercise of rights protected under this chapter.
- SECTION 2. That Section 39-9003, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-9003. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY. (1) The power to require or regulate a person's choice in choosing health care services or in the mode of securing health care services, or to impose a penalty related thereto, is not found in the Constitution of the United States of America, and is therefore a power reserved to the people pursuant to the Ninth Amendment, and to the several states pursuant to the Tenth Amendment. The state of Idaho hereby exercises its sovereign power to declare the public policy of the state of Idaho regarding the right of all persons residing in the state of Idaho in choosing health care services or in choosing the mode of securing health care services

free from the imposition of penalties, or the threat thereof, by the federal government of the United States of America relating thereto.

- (2) It is hereby declared that the public policy of the state of Idaho, consistent with our constitutionally recognized and inalienable rights of liberty, is that every person within the state of Idaho is and shall be free to choose or decline to choose any or all health care services or mode of securing health care services without penalty or threat of penalty by the federal government of the United States of America.
- (3) The policy stated herein shall not be applied to impair any right of contract related to the provision of health care services to any person or group.
- SECTION 3. That Section 39-9004, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-9004. ENFORCEMENT. (1) No public official, employee, or agent of the state of Idaho or any of its political subdivisions, shall act to impose, collect, enforce, or effectuate any penalty in the state of Idaho that violates the public policy set forth in section 39-9003(2), Idaho Code.
- (2) No public official, department, employee, or agent of the state of Idaho or any of its political subdivisions shall provide assistance or resources of any kind to any agency, public official, department, employee, or agent of the federal government attempting to implement any requirement or penalty in violation of the public policy set forth in section 39-9003(2), Idaho Code. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be sentenced to jail for up to six (6) months or fined up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or both. Any fine must be paid by the individual and may not be paid by a government entity with public tax dollars.
- (3) No federal official shall act to impose, collect, enforce, or effectuate any penalty in the state of Idaho that violates the public policy set forth in section 39-9003(2), Idaho Code.
- (24) The attorney general shall take such action as is provided in section 67-1401(15), Idaho Code, in the defense or prosecution of rights protected under this act.
- SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this act are hereby declared to be severable and if any provision of this act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid for any reason, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act.
- SECTION 5. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its passage and approval.